

We Welcome You to St. Matthew!



We are so glad to share with you the blessings of God's Holy Word today. If you have no church home, we invite you to consider membership at St. Matthew. Please fill out the Record of Fellowship book found at the end of the pew and sign our guest book in the Narthex (entryway). We hope to see you again soon. Come often to be given the gifts our Lord has to give!

Worship Information

Elders..... David Honerkamp & Jason Christy
 Greeters..... Daniel & Christina Cross
 Ushers Joshua Montemayor & Jarod Christy
 Counters
 Acolyte..... AJ Parsalaw
 Altar Guild..... Rose & BJ Jackson

At St. Matthew, we encourage families to worship God together – it is a part of His plan. We love the sound of children. This shows a growing church. We do recognize, however, the special needs of our youngest church attendees. While we encourage children to be present in worship, if they are a distraction to you or others, you may take advantage of the Cry Room located on the south side of the narthex where the Restroom is located as well, which is equipped with a changing table and a rocking chair for the times you may just need to step out for a brief moment. Please do come back in the sanctuary to continue in the Divine Service.

Any prayer requests may be made using the prayer request card on the shelf in the Narthex or in the pews. Place them in the offering plate or give to a pastor or elder.

We're Here to Assist You

Church Office Hours: Monday–Thursday – 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
 281-443-2304 or 281-443-8463

Appointments for counsel, home visits or hospital calls may be requested with Pastor by phone at any time.

Senior Pastor..... Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs ~ 832-515-4830
 Associate Pastor of Hispanic Ministry... Rev. Arturo Mendez ~ 832-883-1705
 Organist.....
 Parish Secretary..... Amanda Hobbs

Board Chairpersons:

Elders.....
 Trustees..... Eugene Meyer
 Education... Kathleen Montemayor
 Evangelism..... Lester Sentesi
 Stewardship... Nicole Poppenhusen

Congregational Officers:

President..... Scott Christy
 Vice Pres..... David Honerkamp
 Secretary..... Becky Reyes
 Treasurer.....
 Financial Secretary.. Nicole Poppenhusen

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) which is a denomination that confesses the historic, orthodox Christian faith, a faith built on “the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone” (Eph. 2:20).



The LCMS, headquartered in St. Louis, Mo., is mission-oriented and Bible-based. LCMS doctrine reflects the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther, as summarized in *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*. Today, the LCMS has nearly 2 million baptized members in more than 6,000 congregations and some 9,000 pastors. Two seminaries and nine colleges and universities operate under the auspices of the LCMS, and its congregations operate the largest Protestant parochial school system in America.

Life Thoughts

April 7 – Easter II – How remarkable that our Lord's beloved Apostle St. John describes the Gospel of Jesus Christ as “the Word of Life” (1 John 1:2). He also declares all believers qualify as “little children” (2:1). And he proclaims that God has given His Son to redeem “the whole world” – every member of the human race, no matter what age, appearance, or ability. Even personal choice or political controversy can't keep us quiet about it!

Stewardship Every Sunday

John 20:19 – “Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” The peace we have in Jesus is what makes a life of good works possible. Since we know that it is Jesus who saved us, and not our works, we are now free to do good works not out of self-interest, but for the right reasons: out of thanksgiving toward God and love for our neighbors.

Attendance for Last Week ~ 03/31/2024
 Adult Bible Class - N/A Galatians Class - 9
 Sun. Divine Service - 86
 Offering - \$N/A
 Wed. Morning Bible Class - 7 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 10

For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord ~ Psalm 117:2

Life Quotes

"In the resurrection we find solace in our mourning, in our uncertainty, and in our troubles. Our longing for escape finds its hope in the resurrection of Christ. It is God's approval upon the redemptive work of His Son. It is the assurance that as He was raised from the dead, so shall we, and all who have 'fallen asleep in Him' shall be raised to life eternal." Pastor Robert Fleischmann, Christian Life Resources – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Board of Evangelism Monthly Meeting

The Board of Evangelism & Fellowship will be meeting every 3rd Sunday of each month after church service. The next meeting will be Sunday, April 21st. So mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you have an activity you would like to see us do, please see Lester Sentesi or any board member.

Church Re-pipe Fund

At the August 27 Congregational meeting of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield, the voters voted to begin a fund to re-pipe all our facilities. The cost estimated at around \$40,000. This fund is to be funded by any member wishing to make a contribution above their normal tithe. At the same time we will pursue financing the amount over what is contributed. However, if the contributions amount to more than the cost all extra monies will then be put in the general fund.

ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com.



Lutheran Witness Subscription

If you have requested and been receiving a subscription to the Lutheran Witness and have not submitted payment for your subscription. Please bring your envelope with the subscription cost of \$22.50 as soon as possible. Thank you

Update from the St. Matthew Youth Group

The Youth Group raised \$654.00 that will be put toward their Higher Things Trip to Clarksville, Arkansas this summer. Thank you so much for all of your support!



Prayers for Our Church Family & Friends

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people. . . . This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ~1 Timothy 2:1-4

Please remember those whose needs have been reported with prayers, cards and visits. **BOLD FONT** indicates request is new or has been updated this Sunday.

Prayer of Comfort

✠ For the Family of Bill Frederick - who passed away on Saturday, March 30th. (Friend of The Staytons)

Funeral Service Information

✠ Eda Nitz - A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 20th here at St. Matthew at 11am with lunch to follow.

Strength & Healing

- ✠ Don Cornman - healing from sciatica
- ✠ Vita Malloy - recovering from surgery
- ✠ Frances Casper - upcoming heart surgery (friend of Dave Cowger)
- ✠ Keith Baker - internal complications - (friend of John Lisius)
- ✠ Patsy Hodges - recovering at home from cataract surgery
- ✠ Ruben Alvarez - health challenges (father of Elaina Alvarez Christy)
- ✠ Jean Hinz - recovering from hernia surgery
- ✠ Jose Galvaz - recovery from 3rd degree burns
- ✠ Werner Hartl - fell and broke his hand among many other injuries
- ✠ Dale & Kerri McLeod - In critical condition after a plane crash (friends of John & Jan Stayton)

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✠ Patricia LaShomb - prayers during her continued treatment and healing from cancer
- ✠ Hunter Baty - Fhar's disease (friend of Marie Fischer)
- ✠ Denise Berry - diagnosed with ALS (cousin of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✠ Helena Goss - prayer for healing as she goes through cancer treatments (Aunt of Shawn Goss)
- ✠ Karren Radcliff - hospitalized for wound healing (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✠ Rose Ortiz - stage 2 pancreatic cancer (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✠ Justin Street - facial tumor (friend of Shawn Goss)
- ✠ Toby Turley - cancer (niece of Gaces)

- ✠ Carolyn Nitche - lymphoma, no treatment plan (aunt of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✠ Jan Stayton - healing from back surgery
- ✠ Leon Lilley - leukemia
- ✠ Paul Kron - cancer
- ✠ Bill Pali - Alzheimers
- ✠ Anne McIlhany - heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis
- ✠ Gladys Banewski - cancer (friend of Gaces)
- ✠ Brandon Pate - sclerosis of the liver (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✠ Carolina Villarreal - cancer & surgery (friend of the Mendez Family)
- ✠ Jeanie Cowger - cancer (step-family of the Cowger family)
- ✠ Marian Piracci - neurological treatment (niece of the Langleys' son-in-law)
- ✠ Vic Vaz - leukemia (husband of Shelia Vaz)
- ✠ JoAnn Roberts - chronic Leukemia Stage 1 (wife of Steve Roberts)
- ✠ Matthew Piserelle - no treatment (brother of Phillip Williamson)

Our Shut Ins

Gladys Brandt, Karen Mavus, Aileen Mercer, Bill Pali, Arlene Schultz, Sherry Betz & Betty Carter

General Prayer

- ✠ Comfort & Protection for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Israel
- ✠ Jason & Kim Christy - healthy pregnancy & baby
- ✠ Sisilie and Chris Lawrence - healthy pregnancy & baby due May 2024 (son & daughter-in-law of Gary & Virginia Lawrence)
- ✠ Susie Wells - seeking employment after 9 years with Microsoft
- ✠ The family of Ali Lowitzer - strength during difficult times & for her safe return home (granddaughter of Mary Davis)
- ✠ For the safety of those serving in the military: Greggrie O'Garro - Navy/Bahrain (son of Claire O'Garro), Anthony Valles Army/Japan (grandson of Nancy Baeza), Chris Crowley (Navy/USC Roosevelt (son-in-law of Nicole Poppenhusen), Timothy & Benjamin Menz - Marines (sons of Paul Menz), Steven & Robert Hailey - Marines (nephews of the Haileys)

May Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the May 2024 newsletter. Please submit them to office.smlcw@gmail.com by Monday, April 22nd.



Celebrations

Birthdays: 4/3 April Harvey, 4/7 Daniel Cross, 4/7 Scott Gentes, 4/9 Katie Clark, 4/10 Barbara Ellis & 4/10 Mary Garrett
 Confirmed Anniversaries: 4/1 Jonathan LaShomb, 4/2 David Cowger, 4/3 Mary Garrett, 4/5 Caleb Bogs, 4/5 Tiffany Cowger, 4/5 Shawn Honerkamp, 4/7 Joyce French, 4/7 Janis Stayton, 4/9 Hannah Bogs, 4/9 Jordan Christy, 4/9 Nathan Cross, 4/9 William Gentes, 4/9 Aaron Lilley, 4/9 Rebecca Mendez, 4/9 Dillon Mosier & 4/11 Larry Harvey
 Baptism Anniversaries: 4/1 Paul Menz, 4/3 Carol Clark, 4/3 Jake McIlhany, 4/3 Kate McIlhany, 4/8 Patirica LaShomb, 4/9 Marilyn Kron & 4/9 Aileen Mercer
 Wedding Anniversaries: 4/6 Joe & Shirley Michka ~ 56 Yrs.

125th Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

The Anniversary Committee had their 1st meeting and we are excited. The Grand Celebration will be held on May 18, 2025. We have invited Dr. Harrison to be our guest Preacher that day as we celebrate not only 125 years as a congregation, but also our 125th Annual Picnic. We have a lot to do and time is going to fly by. We need your help. If you want to be part of the planning for this awesome year of celebration please see Lester Sentesi. "Growing Together In Christ for 125 Years!"

St. Matthew Lutheran Church 2024 Picnic Committee/Volunteers

The Picnic Committee met this past Sunday and we are excited. There are sign up sheets in the Narthex for side dishes, desserts & for people to sign up to work. We need potato salad, coleslaw, pies & cakes. As well as lots of people to help out. If you have any questions please contact Lester Sentesi, Phillip Williamson or Melissa Sindlinger. Thank you to everyone in advance for your help in making our 2024 picnic a wonderful success.



KFUO Radio

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUE.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: Study Isaiah 58-61 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Proverbs 3-6 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and continue studying Good Works on Concord Matters (4/13 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUE Radio app!



Engaging Truth

Here at Engaging Truth the Easter message resounds throughout the month of April as we examine the four critical aspects of the Gospel of the Christ:

- The Sacrifice of Christ
- The Cross of Christ
- The Reconciliation of Christ
- The Resurrection of Christ

On April 7th, Rev. Dr. Joel Biermann joins host Rev. John Cain to discuss the sacrifice made in order to save mankind from sin and death, then on April 14th, host Bill Prewitt welcomes Rev. Nader Hanna for a discussion of the Cross as the Power of God. On April 21st, familiar guest Rev. Tim Carter joins host Rev. David Schultz for a close look at the Reconciliation of Christ, and finally on April 28th Rev. Dr. David Bahn joins Rev. Cain for a discussion of Christ's Resurrection.

Engaging Truth is produced by Evangelical Life Ministries, P.O. Box 568, Cypress, TX 77410. Join us each Sunday evening at 7 p.m. on KKHT-FM, 100.7 The Word, (kkht.com) for Engaging Truth followed each week by the Liberty Action Alert hosted by Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C.

Our programs are also available as podcasts on our website at elmhouston.org or anywhere you get your podcasts by searching for Engaging Truth.

The April Lineup:

- April 7, 2024 7 p.m. – The Sacrifice of Christ - Rev. Dr. Joel Biermann
7:30 p.m. - Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty
- April 14, 2024 7 p.m. – The Cross of Christ - Rev. Nader Hanna
7:30 p.m. - Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty
- April 21, 2024 7 p.m. – The Reconciliation of Christ - Rev. Tim Carter
7:30 p.m. - Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty
- April 28, 2024 7 p.m. – The Resurrection of Christ - Rev. Dr. David Bahn & Rev. John Cain
7:30 p.m. - Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty

Opportunities to Study God's Word

SUNDAY



Sunday School for All Ages
Preschool - Elementary Classes begin at 8:45 am in Room #5. The children are learning Biblical accounts to go with Sunday's Readings from "God's Hand in Our Lives" series from the Church of the Lutheran Confessions.

SCHOOL

Sunday Adult Bible Classes
All members and friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited for coffee and donuts every Sunday at 8:30 am. Then our Bible Classes begin at 8:45 am. The study of John led by Pastor Bogs meets in Room #2 and Galatians led by Larry Harvey meets in Room #4. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend!



Wednesday Mornings

The Wednesday morning Bible study group will be meeting at 10:00 am in Room #2. We invite everyone to join us to study God's Word. We are studying The Augsburg Confession.

Wednesday Evenings

There are two Wednesday evening Bible classes. The study on Baptism led by Larry Harvey meets at 6:30 pm in Room #4. The study of End Times led by Pastor Bogs will resume meeting on April 2nd.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Join us for the Men's Breakfast & Bible Study on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is April 13th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.

